

REMARKS

Examiner Joerger is thanked for the courtesy extended during the Office Interview on March 23, 2007.

The Interview Summary is believed to accurately reflect what was discussed and agreed to during the Interview.

Reconsideration of the rejection of Claims 1-5, 7, 8, 10, 12, 15, 16 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Klintenstedt et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,710,160), and the rejection of Claims 6, 9, 11, 14, and 17 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Klintenstedt et al. in view of Steinacker et al. (U.S. Patent No. 2,828,069) is hereby requested. As stated in the Interview Summary, "[T]he discussed amendments appear to overcome the prior art". Independent Claims 1, 15 and 16 have been amended as proposed. Therefore, Claims 1, 15, and 16 are considered to have overcome the above rejections and are in condition for allowance, and such is respectfully requested.

New Claim 19 has been added to further define the location of the collar portion of Claim 16. No new matter has been added.

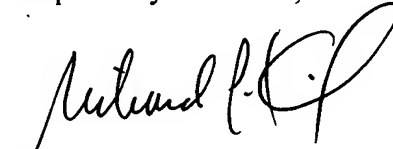
Claims 2, 3, 5-12, 14-15, 18 and 19 depend from one of Claims 1, 15 and 16. These dependent claims are considered to be in condition for allowance for the same reasons as their respective independent claims and for their own limitations as well, as such is respectfully requested.

In view of the above, Claims 1-3, 5-12 and 14-19 and the application are considered to be in condition for allowance and such is respectfully requested.

It is respectfully requested that, if necessary to effect a timely response, this paper be considered as a Petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response and

shortages in other fees, be charged, or any overpayment in fees be credited, to the Account of Barnes & Thornburg LLP, Deposit Account No. 02-1010 (677/41956).

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard P. Krinsky". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "K" and "P".

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Enclosures  
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